



For Immediate Release
June 26, 2009

Airport Director Granted Leave of Absence

New Orleans: New Orleans Aviation Board Chairman, Daniel F. Packer, Jr., announced today that a leave of absence has been granted to Director of Aviation, Mr. Sean C. Hunter. The leave was granted, at Mr. Hunter's request, as he deals with inquiries by federal authorities about possible insurance violations involving a member of Mr. Hunter's immediate family.

Aviation Board Chairman, Daniel F. Packer, Jr., also announced that Ms. Patricia Malone, the current Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, will serve as Interim Director of Aviation, during the leave requested by Mr. Hunter.

Mr. Packer expressed the Board's confidence in Mr. Hunter and its continued support of the Airport's staff and employees who, he noted, "will continue to provide top notch services to the traveling public and the citizens of the metropolitan region." Packer pointed out that the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport is on pace to handle approximately eight (8) million passengers in 2009 and has embarked on a modernization program that will see the expenditure of more than \$350 million dollars and add more than 6,000 jobs to the metro area's job force over the next three years.

Mr. Packer will serve as the primary spokesperson for the Airport during Mr. Hunter's leave. Please direct all inquiries on this and other airport matters through Ms. Michelle Wilcut, the Airport's Public Relations Manager at (504)628-0250.

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